



## GENERAL TAN SRI DATO' SRI HAJI AFFENDI BIN BUANG RMAF CHIEF OF DEFENCE FORCE MALAYSIA

Cyberspace defence and security have been buzzwords amongst defence strategists and military professionals for quite some time now. The definition of Cyberspace has attracted varied responses but since the early 1990s, the military has started venturing into cyberspace with the advent of the internet.

Today, the global society, especially the military forces, have embraced cyberspace as a critical frontier in force projection and defence management through the Revolution in Military Affairs or RMA which has now grown exponentially with the evolution of the Fourth Industrial Revolution or IR 4.0. Cyberspace is now becoming both the 'silver bullet' and 'Achilles heel' of military power globally.

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Be that as it may, the world as we know has benefitted remarkably through public and private ventures undertaken within and beyond cyberspace. Whilst we rejoiced at the unprecedented benefits afforded through cyberspace, this unnatural state of dependency has exposed systems and infrastructures to vulnerabilities arising from varied aspects of cyber threats. In view of this, the development of cyber security has begun earnestly and in tandem with the warp-speed advancements in cyberspace.

Apart from that, science and technology play a crucial role in providing the best protection for the country's defence and security, especially when it comes to cyber threats and cyber security. The latest innovations in Big Data, the Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Autonomous Platforms, and Cloud Security have made cyber security issues more complex.

The Malaysian Government has committed a sum of RMI.8 billion for the transformation of the National Cyber Security Agency (NACSA) to manage these threats in accordance with the aspirations under the Malaysian Cyber Security Strategy 2020-2024. On the same score, the Malaysian Armed Forces have established the Defence Cyber and Electromagnetic Division in line with the Defence White Paper, as a part of the measures to ensure a robust capability in countering cyber threats.

Likewise, Malaysia aspires to be a leader in creating new technologies which can help to improve the country's defence and security. Industry collaboration is vital in this regard and shows like Cyber Defence Security Asia (Cyber DSA) is one that provides a platform for new technological growth and collaborations.

Therefore, I am looking forward to Cyber DSA 2023, especially the segment on cyber defence as I hope that the new technological systems showcased will in turn inspire our people to innovate bigger and better things. I am also excited to meet other delegates to exchange ideas and plans that can help boost defence and security in our respective countries.



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I would like to congratulate the organisers for putting together this remarkable event and at the same time I look forward to attending and witnessing the various ground-breaking collaborations between science and technology that are set to take place in this event.

Thank You.



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